



southern california dx club

August 2003

Introducing our newest full member.

Marilyn, K6GIL, displays the DXCC certificate she received this past month.

"Wild-Woman Marilyn has worked 184 entities and confirmed 115.

She has been around Ham Radio for many years. Her OM is Skip, KJ6Y. However, she only caught the DX bug two years ago.

Marilyn holds the General Class license and really enjoys working contests. When asked what is her next goal in Ham Radio she said "Being President of the DX club might be fun".

Skip said he is looking forward to taking her on a DXpedition.

Congratulations!



Soap Box— Words from our President



Our August Meeting will have a very important agenda item, in addition to our regular program and quest speaker. As many of you are aware, WRC-03 has eliminated the code test requirement from the ITU regulations for HF operating. The ARRL is soon going to be taking a position on this, and our SW Division VP, Art Goddard – W6XD, is asking for

input from local clubs on this issue.

We had some discussion about this at our last club meeting, and this is what we decided to do. First, we have posted a survey on the [scdxc.org](http://www.scdxc.org) web site, for club members to submit comments on whether or not to support the Morse Code requirement for HF operating privileges. We will be summarizing all comments submitted, and the results will be tabulated and presented to the attending members at the August Meeting.

In addition, we will allow any club member to submit an oral comment on the issue from the floor of the August Club meeting, with **a limit of 1 minute per comment, and a maximum of 10 comments for each side of the issue** (Yes – Drop the Code, No – Do not drop the code). **If you are interested in making a comment from the floor, you will need to advise me at the meeting before we actually start the meeting**, and speakers will be reserved on a **first come / first serve basis**, with a maximum of 10 comments for each side of the issue. Following this, we will take an open vote on the issue, and Jim – N6DHz will tabulate the results and **send the results of the voting, and a copy of all written comments**

received to our ARRL SW Division VP, Art Goddard.

This is an important issue for all of us, and there are good arguments on both sides of the issue. I encourage you to submit your written comments to the web link at <http://www.scdxc.org/cw.html> and to attend the meeting to vote.

The August meeting will be on Thursday, August 14, 2003. Also, don't forget about the upcoming Summer Bash. The 2003 Summer Bash will be held at the QTH of W6YA in Leucadia. It is sponsored by the San Diego DX Club. It will be August 24 at 1:00 PM. Food and refreshments are provided. All DXers and contesters are invited, and I am sure we will have a great turnout from our Club.

73 for now de Herb / KG6OK

Voice of the Veep



I hope everyone is enjoying their summer, going on vacations and hopefully keeping cool.

Our speaker for August will be Bob, N6OX and his DXpedition to Belarus and how he got Andy to America for the adventure of his

life. I believe a lot of you were introduced to Andy up in Visalia. I am still working on a couple of people for Sept, Oct and Nov. Remember that the ARRL Southwest Division Convention will be on September 5 - 7.

73 Cathy, K6VC

FLASH! — AB1228, CALIFORNIA PRB-1 - Governor Gray Davis has signed AB1228, which officially recognizes the Federal PRB-1 Amateur Radio antenna preemption in California state law.

Next General Meeting

The SCDXC meets the second Thursday of the month. Our next meeting will be held August 8, 2002 at Syd Kronenthal Park in Culver City. The park is located 4 blocks west of La Cienega Blvd. and 2 blocks south of Washington Blvd. From the 10 Freeway exit La Cienega south to Washington Blvd. Turn right (west) 4 blocks to McManus Ave (it's La Cienega Ave to the right, McManus to the left). Turn left (south) 2 blocks to the Park. The street dead-ends at the parking lot. Please do not park in the school lot.

MEETING NOTES

de the secretary

Can you believe that the July meeting is history? The next thing you know the summer bash will be here and gone and we will be talking about winter conditions on 80m and 160m, assuming the sun will cooperate.

It was a beautiful evening for a meeting in the park, which is about what we had, as there was no one there to open the doors at first. But we finally got in and had a good turnout. Even Chuck, KR6C made it in from the desert, but I think he was just looking to cool off for the evening.

Charlie Gyenes, VE7BOC/W6 of Hi-Q Antennas brought in several of his beautifully crafted antennas. The discussion for the evening was the concept of "bigger is always better" and to a point it is. That point for Hi-Q Antennas is 5" for the coil diameter of their new Hi-Q-5/80 Giant HF Mobile antenna. This big coiled antenna is not yet available but is due out soon and should be seriously considered if you want to put out a BIG signal in the mobile. They will also have an "Antenna Controller" that should be out in early August that will work with all their antennas. Charlie had several sample antenna parts that he passed around and the quality of these parts would be hard to surpass. If you get a chance to visit his shop or see his products at Visalia it's definitely worth your time to stop and see some real quality manufacturing. If nothing else visit his web site at www.hiqantennas.com.

We had another great batch of raffle prizes this month, if only we had the tickets to sell to everyone so we could have had the drawing. A little oops on the part of the Veep left the ever-important bucket back at the home QTH. So we should really have a



fantastic raffle in August.

There were several visitors to the meeting including Fred, WB6JLL; Howard, KG6OFS; and Robert, K6RSG. I hope they enjoyed the meeting and look forward to seeing them in the future.

I would personally like to congratulate Harvey, K6EXO on winning the Gold Award for Website from United Synagogues of Conservative Judaism for his web design for the Shomrei Torah Synagogue. Harvey does an excellent job on the web site and it is nice to see him honored for his work. I would also like to thank him for the work he does on our very own newsletter, which is no small job. If you don't think it is just sit down at your computer and try putting together 10 pages or so of things that will be interesting for the club members to read. I know I think that the July issue of the newsletter probably had the best cover I have seen since I've been a member of the club. Hi Hi. While I'm congratulating people I would also like to congratulate Marilyn, N6GIL on getting her DXCC certificate in the mail and being the latest person to become a full voting member of the club.

As most of you have heard by now WRC-03 has eliminated the code test requirement from the ITU radio regulations for access to the HF bands. It is now up to the individual countries to determine if they will keep a code requirement as part of their licensing. It was proposed by Joe, K5KT that the club take a position on the issue, so it was decided that we will solicit input from the members and hold a vote at the August meeting to determine the clubs official position. You can send your comments to the club in several ways. By e-mail to cw@scdxc.org or by visiting the web site at www.scdxc.org/cw.html. These comments while not a vote (you must be present at the meeting to vote) will be presented to the members at the august meeting prior to voting.

See everyone in August.

73 DE Jim, N6DHZ

SUMMER BASH

The 2003 Summer Bash will again be held at the QTH of W6YA in Leucadia on August 24 at 1:00 PM. All DXers and contesters are invited. Please note the directions to my house, as we have some local access problems with the city of Encinitas which have not yet been resolved.

Take I-5 south to Leucadia Blvd (one exit past La Costa). From San Diego go one exit past Encinitas Blvd. Go east 1/2 mile to Woodley Place (do NOT turn at Passiflora Avenue!!). Turn right and go to the end of the street.

If there is no parking, follow signs directing to the LEFT ONLY. Please make no attempt to park or access the dirt road on the west side. Parking will be along the next street over on the east side. When you leave, follow this street (Sidonia) south around the curve and to the west. Turn right at the stop sign (Saxony) and left on Leucadia Blvd.

73, Jim, W6YA

Ham Puzzle

By Milt, W6RJO

This months question should be a slam dunk for the contest guys.



Last months puzzle was worked by N6HY who says it was too easy and asks for more difficult problems. Here is Ernie's solution.

$$\begin{aligned} I + c + r &= \$1.00 \\ 2i &= c \quad 3i = 4r/3 \\ I + 2i + 3i/4 &= \$1.00 \\ 3 \frac{3}{4} &= \$1.00 \quad I = 26.6 \text{ round off to } 27 \\ 4r/3 + 8r/3 + 3r/3 &= \$1.00 \\ 15r/5 &= \$1.00 \quad r = 20 \\ 27 + 53 + 20 &= \$1.00 \end{aligned}$$

Ah Yes, The Sweepstakes Contest.

In a recent Sweepstakes contest, V.H.Ham in a burst of enthusiasm, pledged 50,000 points toward the club's totals.

- If V.H.H manages a clean sweep, how many Qs does he need to make his commitment? There are 79 sections at 2 points per Q.
- (V.H.B. has to work some over the week end of the contest, so he can only devote 10 hours to the contest. At a leisurely 40 Qs per hour, how many sections will he need to bag, instead?

Propagation August 2003

by Shel, W6EL



These predictions for the five prime HF bands show the times when propagation is expected to be best from Los Angeles to

several locations that are expected to be active during the coming month.

Other times are possible, but with weaker signals or lower probability. Openings are not expected on bands that are not listed. A solar flux of 127, corresponding to a sunspot number of 83, and an average geomagnetic field are assumed. Sunrise/sunset times are at the DX location. All times are UTC.

Good luck and good DX from Shel, W6EL.

H40 Temotu - 8/11 to 8/16
Beam 253 degrees
Sunrise/sunset 1912/0650
80: 0900-1230.
40: 0700-1330.
20: 0500-1530.
15: 1900-0900.

9N Nepal - 8/11 to 8/19
Beam 337 degrees
Sunrise/sunset 2354/1255
20: 1230-1500.
15: 0030-0530.

EA6 Balearic Islands - 8/15 to 8/17 -
Beam 41 degrees
Sunrise/sunset 0506/1838
40: 0330-0500.
20: 0100-0700.
15: 1900-0030.

TZ Mali - 8/12 to 8/23 -
Beam 65 degrees
Sunrise/sunset 0614/1842
80: 0400-0430.
40: 0230-0600.
20: 2330-0530 and 0630-0800.
15: 2000-0130.

TF Iceland - 8/12 to 8/23 - Beam 28 degrees
Sunrise/sunset 0527/2120
40: 0330-0530.
20: 0100-0600 and 0730-0830.

DXCC "TOP of HONOR ROLL" Listing

The TOP is now at 335 entities. You can get this list on the web at the following URL:

<http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/listings/tohr2003.pdf>

Free Software

As a service to the Ham Community Shel, W6EL, has posted W6ELProp at <http://www.qsl.net/w6elprop/> for all to use. This software is the latest in the "MiniProp" series and is used for the predictions in these issues.

Version 2.7 is now available.

NEEDED AND WANTED

Articles, QSLs, notes of interest for the SCDXC Newsletter.

Highest price paid for all stuff printed.

Send to the editor, K6EXO@scdxc.org

Steve's Corner

SAN FELIX ISLAND – XRØX

March, 2002, saw the activation of semi-rare San Felix as XRØX. The 2 km long island lies 1000 km west of Chile. The island houses one of Chile's twenty sea level stations that are part of a network that monitor's the sea level and warns of Tsunamis.



The DXpedition was led by, Bob Schmieder, KK6EK, the founder and leader of Cordell Expeditions, a non-profit research group begun in 1977. The group is responsible for the creation of the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary. Bob has been leader, co-leader and/or operator on several DXpeditions, including: Peter I Island 3YØPI (1994); Easter Island/Salas y Gómez, XRØY/Z, (1995); and Heard Island, VKØIR, (1997).

A few weeks after XRØX and its 69K QSOs went into the DX history books, Bob made a presentation on at the Visalia DX convention. You can see the details of the operation on the website:

<http://www.cordell.org/SFX/>

As he concluded his talk, Bob solicited stories about XRØX. Here's the one I sent him:

"I like to think I have a well equipped station and good operating skills. So I'm tuning 20m CW and here is XRØX on 14004 clearly listening up. I check and see that I haven't yet worked them on 20 CW so I start tuning for his listening frequency. He's working Europeans and lots of West Coast stations. I figure that finding the "spot" will be a piece of cake. He works a K7. I tune. Can't find him. Next a W6. Can't hear a peep. In fact, all I here "up" is the din of Europeans off the side of the beam from Southern California. Now I'm getting anxious. Is my receiver broken? I keep tuning higher and higher and still no signals. What's going on? Does he use some really wide split I haven't discovered yet? I decide to check 40m. Low and behold, there is XRØX

much, much louder. And he's on 7002. Now working him up is a piece of cake. The second harmonic was strong enough that even the Europeans on 20m were fooled."

Bob thanked me for the story: "Now that's a wide split! But if we were actually transmitting such a harmonic, we were amiss. We really should have had a filter to prevent this. A good warning, which I'll pass along to the team."

It does of course confirm the old theory that you must be transmitting when and where the DX is listening.....

73, Steve WB6RSE



IMPORTANT NOTICE

The club newsletter needs photos, articles, news, etc. We would like to have QSLs that are meaningful to you along with a short story.

We pay the highest rate possible for articles published in the newsletter. Send in as many articles as you want. We need them.

Send to K6EXO@scdxc.org

(ed note: WA6BOB tells us his experiences in helping Boy Scouts on the road to being HAMs)

Recruiting New Ham's with Boy Scouts and Field Day

The first step for any recruitment effort is to appoint an assistant Scoutmaster or troop committee member to serve as the troop membership chair. This person will develop and implement a year-round growth plan that incorporates all methods of recruitment; working closely with Cub Scout packs in the community, the district membership committee, and the unit commissioner.

With this notation so it began that I, along with the Scoutmaster and others in the Bobcat Radio Club, designed a field day with the involvement of more than thirty Boy Scouts to earn their Radio Merit Badges.

As you can note from the following requirements listed below, Field day was a great opportunity for the scouts, and prospective hams with some of their parents, as well as a few currently licensed scouts to involve themselves with licensed operators in the 2002 ARRL Field Day.

The activities were coordinated mainly with the scoutmaster, Dave K6DBH, who recently before Field Day obtained his General class license. The program was set to sequence the scouts' minimum radio requirements with one dedicated station. There were two other

stations, operated by club members that were immediately available to them at any time they desired to operate under direct supervision. This gave them an opportunity to be more casual and gain knowledge about amateur radio. We operated with the intent to interest them in a casual atmosphere.

Incentives.

There were placards made so each could pin a new state with their assigned colors when worked.

GOTA ARRL incentive and others.

<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/scouthbk/>

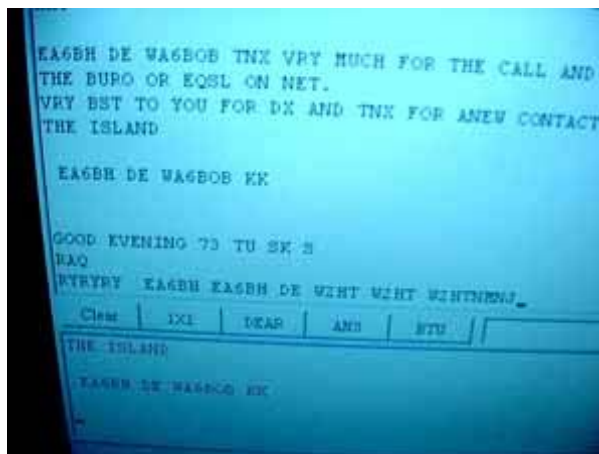
Operating on other modes with a laptop in RTTY and CW as keeping the hobby affiliated with a laptop is the in thing with today's involvement of computers.

Assistance in set up of antennas, solar and battery power sources.

We encouraged the scouts to ask questions as this really inspired them to ask more as the answers given to them were in simple non-technical terms.

Our location was at Lake Casitas, Ojai, Santa Barbara Section, 3A, on ten acres adjacent to the lake with plenty of room for tents, campers, BBQ pits, and antennas with sufficient separation and room for the scouts to involve themselves with other activities when not on the radio and attributed to scouting.

The scouts enjoyed themselves for many hours on end as well as a couple of parents that vowed to obtain their licenses along with their sons. This was a pleasure well encountered to see the younger ones continue into this hobby as well as a possible foundation towards their majors in college and careers.



Through out the following year I have given many items of Radio, test equipment, and parts to the scoutmaster for the growing interest in Amateur radio within the Troop. Many hours of conversation and advice with the Scoutmaster has helped him to better his operation of amateur radio to which has reflected to the scouts in his troop.

JOTA and other field trips involving amateur radio have given them more opportunity towards learning about the world, society, and technology.

Members of the Bobcat Radio's field day.

WA6BOB	John B. Orton	
WA6KCV	Robert C. Clarke	
KF6IGS	Virginia L. Voyles	WA6KCV's niece
K6DBH	David B Howe	Scoutmaster
K6JH	James L. Henke	
KJ6H	Tod Andrews & XYL	with Two daughters
WA6NXP	John P. D Amico	

73 John....aka....Bob....WA6BOB

Boy Scout Merit Badge Requirements

RADIO

1. Explain what radio is. Include in your explanation: the differences between broadcast radio and hobby radio, and the differences between broadcasting and two-way communicating. Also discuss broadcast radio and amateur radio call signs and using phonetics.

2. Sketch a diagram showing how radio waves travel locally and around the world. How do the

broadcast radio stations, WWV and WWVH, help determine what you will hear when you listen to a radio?

3. Do the following:

a. Draw a chart of the electromagnetic spectrum covering 100 kilohertz (kHz) to 1000 megahertz (MHz).

b. Label the MF, HF, VHF, UHF, and microwave portions of the spectrum on your diagram.

c. Locate on your chart at least eight radio services such as AM and FM commercial broadcast, CB, television, amateur radio (at least four ham radio bands), and police.

d. Discuss why some radio stations are called DX and others are called local. Explain who the FCC and the ITU are.

4. Explain how radio waves carry information. Include in your explanation: transceiver, transmitter, amplifier, and antenna.

5. Explain to your counselor the safety precautions for working with radio gear, particularly direct current and RF grounding.

6. Do the following:

a. Explain the differences between a block diagram and a schematic diagram.

b. Draw a block diagram that includes a transceiver, amplifier, microphone, antenna, and feed line.

c. Explain the differences between an open circuit, a closed circuit, and a short circuit.

d. Draw eight schematic symbols. Explain what three of the represented parts do. Find three electrical components to match to three of these symbols.

7. Do ONE of the following (a, b, or c):

a. Amateur radio

1. Describe some of the activities that amateur radio operators can do on the air, once they have



earned an amateur radio license.

2. Carry on a 10-minute real or simulated ham radio contact using voice or Morse code; use proper call signs, Q signals, and abbreviations. (Licensed ham radio operators may substitute five QSL cards as evidence of contacts with amateur radio operators from at least three different call districts.) Properly log the real or simulated ham radio contact and record the signal report.

3. Explain at least five Q signals or amateur radio terms you hear while listening.

4. Explain some of the Technician Class license requirements and privileges. Explain who gives amateur radio exams.

5. Explain how you would make an emergency call on voice or Morse code. Tell why the FCC has an amateur radio service.

6. Explain handheld transceivers versus home "base" stations. Explain about mobile amateur radios and amateur radio repeaters.

b. Broadcast radio

1. Prepare a program schedule for radio station "KBSA" of exactly one-half hour, including music, news, commercials, and proper station identification. Record your program on audio tape using proper techniques.

2. Listen to and properly log 15 broadcast stations; determine for five of these their transmitting power and general areas served.

3. Explain at least eight terms used in commercial broadcasting such as segue, cut, and fade.

4. Discuss the educational and licensing requirements and career opportunities in broadcast radio.

c. Shortwave listening

1. Listen across several shortwave bands for two four-hour periods, one in the early morning, the other in the early evening. Log the stations properly and locate them geographically on a globe.

2. For several major foreign stations (BBC in Great Britain or HCJB in Ecuador, for example), list several frequency bands used by each.

3. Compare your morning and evening logs, noting the frequencies on which your selected stations were loudest during each session. Explain the differences in signal strength from one period to the next.

4. Discuss the purpose of and careers in shortwave communications.

8. Visit a radio installation approved in advance by your counselor (ham radio station, broadcast station, or public service communications center, for example). Discuss what types of equipment you saw in use, how it was used, what types of licenses required to operate and maintain the equipment, and the purpose of the station.

References: The Boy Scouts of America
<http://www.scouting.org>

Pacific Skyline Council
<http://www.pacsky.org/>

Pictures:

1. WA6BOB assisting licensed Scout.
2. Casual DX RTTY QSO with Scouts operating on laptop.
3. Explaining the method of logging, old style.
4. K6DBH with five scouts on the air.
5. K6DBH operating with three scouts and three parents.

Beware Solicitations!

If you receive an email or a phone call offering to sell you QST, CQ, Popular Electronics, or a subscription to some other communications-related publication, think twice before agreeing to it.

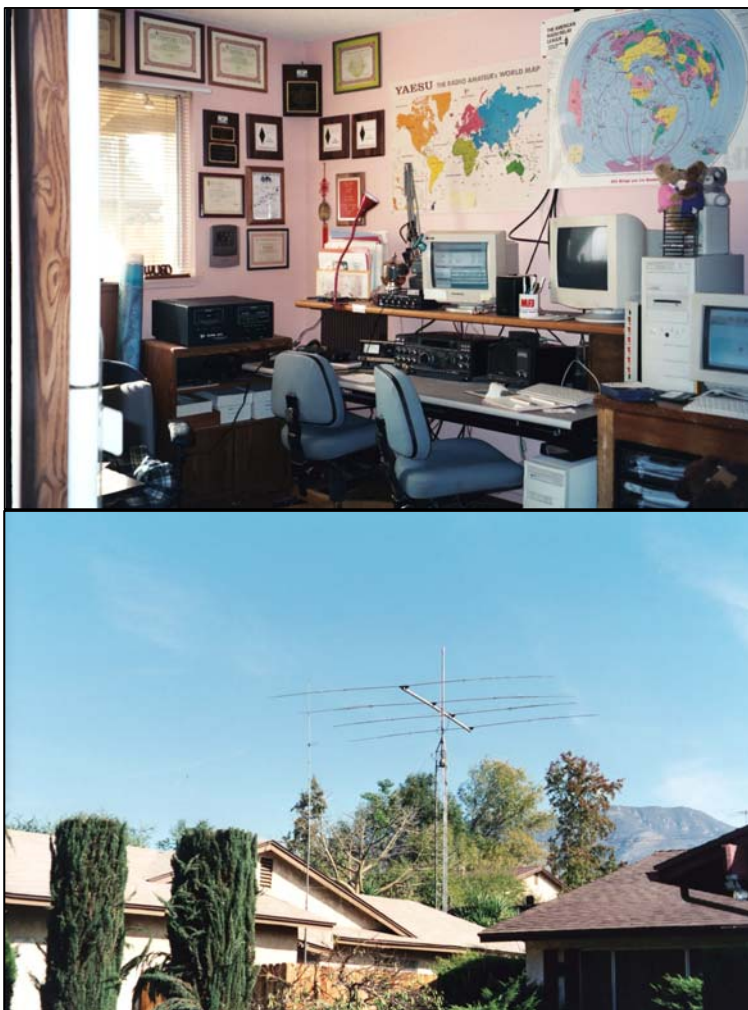
The publishers of these magazines have all indicated in recent weeks that someone is perpetuating a scam to "sell" these magazines as a ruse to get a hold of your credit card numbers. All indicate that no one is authorized to sell the subscriptions at a discount — and you will never receive a magazine from them this way. Further, Popular Electronics ceased publication months ago, and the ARRL does not sell subscriptions to QST to individuals, you can only get the magazine (it's official Journal) by joining the League. If you should receive such a solicitation, do NOT give the solicitor any credit card numbers. Instead, get as much information as you can from them, and then contact the publisher of the appropriate publication to forward the information for eventual use by law enforcement to find, stop, and/or prosecute those perpetuating this fraud.



A Visit to Carl and Cathy's "Shack"

Cathy, K6VC, writes: "Ok, finally we are sending in our pictures of the shack. We started setting up back in 1997 after I received my first ticket. We started with an Icom 761 and a Ten Tec Amplifier. We also had a R7000, which gave me my DXCC. One year later we put up a Rohn Tower, 30ft with a KLM 34A, and both of us started to increase our country count, (of course, Carl was already in the 300's). Our shack is ever changing, with a new 1000D, Alpha Amplifier and computer programs to aid us. We also bought from Wayne, W6IRD, the US Tower that he won at Visalia in 2002.

Ed note: This is not the end of the story — Carl and Cathy will soon be moving. Of course, the reason for the move has little to do with the fact that she won so many radios they need a bigger shack (but, that was a consideration). Carl told us they have lots of room for big antenna and tall towers at the new QTH. We hope to see pictures of this new place before they move again.



GET OUT YOUR CHECKBOOK! !

Hicksville, NY - Noting that the Nextel Corp. has trademarked the term "Push to Talk"***, CQ Communications has announced its intent to trademark the term "CQ" used in connection with the monthly publication CQ - The Radio Amateur's Journal.

As a CQ spokesperson explained: "We have no intent to restrict the use of CQ as the general calling term used in on the Amateur Radio bands. In order to protect our trademark, however, we will have to charge a small royalty for general use by radio hams."

"The proposed royalty fee is 0.3 cents per use. Thus, using the term "CQ" 100 times would cost the licensee 30 cents. Casual operators may pay up once per year, while heavy users like DXers and Contesters need to pay up after each major operating event. Manufacturers of voice keyer equipment and software have already indicated their willingness to add CQ meters to their equipment. We are in negotiations with ASCAP to act as our agent for collecting the royalties.

"We are considering a special rate for clubs and other groups operating in the annual Field Day exercise. And of course, CQ subscribers are granted unlimited use of the term "CQ" for the duration of their subscription terms.

We don't expect this will impact emergency communications at all, because those folks shouldn't be calling CQ anyway."

*** This "event" was reported in the trade papers as such:

Nextel is currently attempting to trademark law to prevent competitors from using the phrase "Push To Talk" (PTT) to describe rival service offerings. Some question how successful this will be considering that PTT has been a "generic" radio communications term since the 1940's or even earlier... just check your old Heath & Collins manuals, ARRL handbooks, or QST's!

FIX FOR ALPHA 87A BANDSWITCH FAULT

de K6FG

Many of our members have Alpha 87A amplifiers. Some of us have had a problem with recurring faults on one or more bands. Usually the fix involves moving to another band, keying down, and then trying again on the desired band. The >fault= generally appears with indicator LEDs 1 & 5 lit. (In my case the problem occurred only on 17 meters.)

The bad news is that Alpha confirmed that the cause is bandswitch misalignment on the particular band. The good news is that the problem is easily fixed via software instructions from a computer attached to the amplifier's serial port.

The following are relevant excerpts from Alpha technical support emails:

You will need to have a computer communicating with the amp before you can realign the band switch. Here are some notes on the 87A Fault protection and instructions for connecting the PC, followed by the 17m instructions.

The 87A should 'talk' to the PC anytime it is plugged into mains power, even when it is turned off. This is the best trouble-shooting tool that we have. Note that the 20A fuses must be good.

Here are instructions for setting up HyperTerm that is built into Win 95/98 for the communications:

To find out what the status of the amplifier is, you need to use a modem communications program. Windows 95/98 comes with one called HyperTerminal. It is usually located in the ACCESSORIES program group.

On Win98 it may not have been installed as the default and you can install it by selecting the "Communications" selection on the AWindows Setup@ tab on the AAdd Programs@ screen within the Windows AControl Panel.@ (You may need to have your Windows installation CD inserted in your CD drive.)

To use the HyperTerminal, click on HyperTerminal from the START, PROGRAMS, ACCESSORIES menu.

Click on HYPERTRM.EXE and it will open a window for a new connection. Give it a name, and in the next window select the "Connect Using: Direct to COMx" pull down menu; select the Com port you will use. This is the same one that you use with the AlphaRemote software.

If the COM port you select is available it will open another box called "COMx Properties". Going down the list, select Bps-4800, Data bits-8, Parity-NONE, Stop bits-1, Flow control-NONE. Click OK to close the window.

Now pull down the FILE menu and click PROPERTIES. Click the SETTING tab and then click ASCII SETUP at the bottom of the window.

Click the box for "Echo typed characters locally" (it could have a check in the box). Click OK to close both windows.

Plug in the amp (power off) and it should be communicating with the computer.

Type VER and press the Enter key. The 87A should respond with the firmware version number.

If you see garbage (or nothing) you will need to remove pin 22 of the 25-pin end of the cable (the 87A end). It is used to set the baud rate of the amplifier. (Page 19 of the 87A manual has a complete explanation of the communications connections.)

Once the amplifier is communicating properly with the computer, type SF and HF to display the Soft Fault and Hard Fault logs (press Enter key after each command). Save the result of those commands. A list of more commands is on pages 20 and 21 of the 87A manual (pages 40 and 41 in 87A Manual Rev 1.0)

NOW HERE IS THE PROGRAMMING INFORMATION (Please note that it is for 17 meters, only):

The memory address for the 17m band switch position is B7C0 .

From the terminal program type:

EXT ON (turns on 'factory mode')
 DM B7C0 (write down first two digits)
 W B7C0 xx (xx = original hex number up or down 2)

If it [17 meters] works when you come from a lower band, increment the number. If it [17 meters] works coming from higher band, decrement the number.

When done type:
 EXT OFF

The following is a list of memory addresses for all of the band switch positions:

160m	B7BB	
80m	B7BC	
40m	B7BD	
30m	B7BE	
20m	B7BF	
17m	B7C0	(This is a number Azero@, not a letter AO@)
15m	B7C1	
12m	B7C2	
10m	B7C3	

Personal War Story:

On my 87A, I raised the B7C0 number by two (from 77 to 79) and my 17 meter band switch problem completely disappeared.

The Windows (98SE) terminal program would not recognize COM6 which I use to connect to the 87A. Instead of simply (and easily) moving the DB9 connector to COM1, 2, 3 or 4, I chose to communicate with the amplifier the hard way: I installed a shareware program that recognized COM6. That program is Kcubed Terminal Emulation Program. It is available at the following website: <http://ourworld.cs.com/hsc1953/download.htm>

Who We Are

The SCDXC Newsletter is published monthly by the Southern California DX Club and is e-mailed to all club members.

Please notify the editor if you do not receive your newsletter, have a change of address, or have found an error.

Please direct all submissions to the editor.

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FIRST QSO ON 60 METERS!

Dan, W7RF and Jim, N6DHZ exchanging their QSL cards for the new 60m band. Their contact at 07:12z on 07/03/2003 is believed to be the first on 60m between club members.



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